(c) The Australian Government informed us of their initiative.

Foodstuff sent for Indians stranded in Gulf

710 SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of ship-loads of foodstuff sent to Gulf countries to help the Indian stranded there;

(b) what are the details of the foodstuff consumed by the Indians; and

(c) what was the fate of the ships that reached after the evacuation of Indians was completed?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The ship M. V. 'Vishwa Siddhi' carried to Iraq, 9,475 tonne of foodstuff for this purpose.

(b) 2,315 tonnes comprising:

Rice—2,034 tonnes

Sugar—58 tonnes

Pulses—152 tonnes

Atta—43 tonnes

Chillies—9 tonnes

Coriander—6 tonnes

Salt, Tea, Pickles & Milk—13 tonnes

was distributed to Indian nationals.

(c) The M. V. 'Vishwa Sinddhi' unloaded its cargo of foodstuffs and left Iraq on December 11, 1990. No other ship was sent to Iraq for this purpose.

National committee for rehabilitation of Gulf returnees

711. SHRI S. MADHAVAN:

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI:

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government propose to set up a national committee for the rehabilitation of the evacuees from Gulf countries;

(b) what are the steps taken to rehabilitate the evacuees; and

(c) what is the total amount spent on their evacuation and rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) A proposal to that effect is under consideration

(b) and (c) The Government of India have not so far rehabilitated the repatriated Indians from Gulf countries. The total expenditure on repatriation of Indian citizens from Iraq and Kuwait is approximately Rs. 300 crores.

Rehabilitation of people affected by Irrigation and river valley products

712 SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a policy for the rehabilitation of people affected by irrigation and river valley projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) The Government have formulated a draft National Policy on rehabilitation of project displaced persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes. This policy, when finalised, will also be applicable to Scheduled Tribe people affected by irrigation and river valley projects. It stipulates conditions for cultural and socio-economic rehabilitation, so as to cause least distress through displacement.